

## Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 BRIDGE 00402 051846Z

64

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 AID-20 EB-11 COME-00 SCS-03 SCA-01 OPR-02

OMB-01 DRC-01 /134 W

----- 123711

R 041907Z MAR 74

FM AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6827

INFO AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

AMCONSUL MARTINIQUE BY POUCH

CINCLANT FOR POLAD

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BRIDGETOWN 0402

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS, PINT, CASC, CDES, DO

SUBJ: INCIDENTS IN DOMINICA

### SUMMARY

THREE INCIDENTS IN 48 HOURS INVOLVING SIX AMERICANS, ONE OF WHOM WAS KILLED, APPEAR TO BE COINCIDENTAL, UNRELATED EVENTS, IN PART PROVOKED BY CARNIVAL. DOMINICA'S DEPUTY PREMIER HAS APOLOGIZED TO EMBASSY AND HAS MADE RADIO ADDRESS CRITICIZING THESE INCIDENTS AND ASSURING BETTER FUTURE PROTECTION FOR FOREIGNERS. END SUMMARY.

1. FIRST INCIDENT OCCURRED SUNDAY EVENING, FEB 24, WHEN FOUR YOUNG AMERICANS (2 MEN AND 2 WOMEN) WERE ATTACKED BY SEVERAL YOUNG DOMINICANS WHILE SLEEPING IN TENT ON BEACH AT HATTON GARDEN (PAGUA) BAY, JUST SOUTH OF MARIGOT ON NORTH-EAST END OF DOMINICA (BTN 336). THREE RECEIVED CUTS FROM MACHETE BLOWS, AND ALL WERE ROBBED AND WARNED TO LEAVE DOMINICA OR BE KILLED SINCE WHITES NOT WELCOME. ONE AMERICAN HAD VISITED DOMINICA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 BRIDGE 00402 051846Z

LAST YEAR AND SPENT SEVERAL WEEKS CAMPING IN DIFFERENT SITES

THROUGHOUT ISLAND WITHOUT ENCOUNTERING ANY HOSTILITY  
WHATSOEVER.

2. SECOND INCIDENT OCCURRED FEB 26 WHEN 43 YEAR OLD AMERICAN  
MALE WAS BATHING WITH THREE OTHER TOURISTS IN RIVER ON OUTSKIRTS  
OF CAPITOL CITY OF ROSEAU (BTN 356). ALL FOUR WERE ATTACKED  
WITHOUT PROVOCATION BY FOUR YOUNG DOMINICANS USING LARGE STONES.  
AMERICAN, WHOSE FACE WAS BADLY BRUISED AND CUT, RECEIVED MEDICAL  
TREATMENT FROM HOSPITAL AND THEN REMAINED IN HOTEL ROOM TO  
CONVALESCENCE.

3. THIRD INCIDENT OCCURRED EVENING FEB 26, FINAL NIGHT OF  
CARNIVAL, WHEN 63 YEAR OLD USCIT JOHN JIRASEK, WHO HAS VISITED  
DOMINICA AT CARNIVAL TIME FOR PAST SIX YEARS, WAS SHOT IN  
SIDE AS HE WALKED THROUGH ROSEAU STREET, FOR NO APPARENT  
REASON (BTN 361). JIRASEK WAS OPERATED ON BY LEADING DOMINICAN  
SURGEON FOLLOWING MORNING BUT DIED THAT EVENING.

4. POLICE COMMISSIONER PHILLIPS TOLD DCM, WHO VISITED DOMINICA  
FEB 27-28, THAT HE HAD FIRST FEARED INCIDENTS WERE PART  
OF CONCERTED ACTION AGAINST FOREIGNERS BY YOUNG RADICALS,  
BUT ON BASIS OF CIRCUMSTANCES HE WAS CONVINCED THAT INCIDENTS  
WERE UNRELATED AND IN PART RESULTED FROM CARNIVAL WHEN THE  
INCIDENCE OF VIOLENCE (INVOLVING CLASHES BETWEEN DOMINICANS  
THEMSELVES) NORMALLY INCREASES, AS IT DID THIS YEAR TOO. HE  
SAID HE HAD SEVERAL LEADS AND SUSPECTS WHICH POLICE ARE  
FOLLOWING UP.

5. POLICE COMMISSIONER ALSO SAID DOMINICA DOES NOT HAVE WELL-  
ORGANIZED ACTIVIST "BLACK POWER" GROUP AND THAT OCCASIONAL  
INCIDENTS WHICH DO OCCUR ARE RESULT OF INDIVIDUALS (USUALLY  
YOUNG TROUBLE MAKERS) WHO ARE EXCITED BY INFLUENCE OF RADICALS  
SUCH AS ROOSEVELT DOUGLAS AND WILLIAM RIVIERE (BTN A-136,  
AUG 1973). PREVIOUS INCIDENTS HAVE INCLUDED ATTACK ON CANADIAN  
UN DP EXPERT, WHO WAS STONED WITH FAMILY LAST YEAR AT JUNGLE  
LAGOON TOURIST SITE (A-184, SEPT 1973) AND ON YOUNG AMERICAN  
WOMAN, CAMPING OUT WITH HER MOTHER AND CHILD, WHO WAS RAPED  
IN 1972. RACIAL HOSTILITY IN DOMINICA HAS ALSO MANIFESTED  
ITSELF AT ST. MARY'S ACADEMY, WHERE SOME FOREIGN CATHOLIC  
PRIESTS AND NUNS FINALLY LEFT WHEN FACED WITH MOUNTING STUDENT  
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 BRIDGE 00402 051846Z

OPPOSITION.

6. GOVERNMENT IS OBVIOUSLY HIGHLY CONCERNED OVER DAMAGE SUCH  
INCIDENTS CAN DO TO DOMINICA'S IMAGE AND TO INVESTMENT  
CLIMATE AND TOURIST TRADE, WHICH IS ALREADY DOING POORLY.  
DEPUTY PREMIER PATRICK JOHN SENT CABLE TO EMBASSY MARCH 1  
EXPRESSING REGRET OVER INCIDENTS (BTN 389). HE ALSO MADE  
RADIO BROADCAST FEB 28 APPEALING TO PUBLIC FOR ASSISTANCE

IN TRACKING DOWN ASSAILANTS AND BRINGING TO JUSTICE "THOSE RESPONSIBLE FOR THESE ATROCITIES," WHOM HE ACCUSED AS BEING "IRRESPONSIBLE FRINGE ELEMENTS OF OUR COMMUNITY," ACCORDING TO PRESS REPORTS. HE ALSO STATED THAT "MORE EFFECTIVE MEASURES WILL BE INTRODUCED TO STAMP OUT THE MENACE THAT THREATENS OUR PROGRESS AND DEVELOPMENT; AND QUITE APART FROM THIS AS A CIVILIZED COUNTRY, WE WILL INSIST ON PROVIDING THE NECESSARY PROTECTION TO FOREIGN NATIONALS IN DOMINICA, THAT OUR NATIONALS ENJOY IN OTHER LANDS."

DONOVAN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** CRIMES, POLICE PROTECTION, EXTREMISTS, CIVIL DISORDERS, TOURISM PROMOTION, DEATHS, INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES, POLITICAL SITUATION  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 04 MAR 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** MorefiRH  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1974BRIDGE00402  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** n/a  
**From:** BRIDGETOWN  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1974/newtext/t19740371/aaaacodv.tel  
**Line Count:** 125  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE  
**Office:** ACTION ARA  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** MorefiRH  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 06 SEP 2002  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <06 SEP 2002 by WorreISW>; APPROVED <10-Sep-2002 by MorefiRH>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** INCIDENTS IN DOMINICA SUMMARY  
**TAGS:** PINS, PINT, CASC, CDES, DO, US, (JIRASEK, JOHN)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005